

know exactly, but I think this is about the same sort of situation and I think you need to pick the date that works best with this fiscally. January 1st, 1995 is that date. If you don't mandate it or you extend it, you're guaranteeing that you're going to have to put General Fund monies in there. You may have to do that anyway if the project is not in a shape where it will work by next year, by 1994. You'll know next year if it isn't and if it isn't going to be on line sufficient so that the counties can work with this system in the state, then I think we'll be back in here saying, you know, you can't do it, by that time you'll have to move it back. Hopefully, that won't happen. It could happen, but you'll have an opportunity to do that. You'll have an opportunity to do that next year. I think that with the changes that have been made in the structure and hopefully the impetus to get this part of it which, frankly, is probably the part that is farthest along of any that we have. I'm convinced that it can be done by January 1, 1995. There may be some kinks worked out, but I think it can be done by then although the track record isn't very good, certainly not this year. But I would also assure the body that if, in fact, it was not ready to go on line by then, I would not be standing up here saying let's stick it down the counties' throats, that's not fair either. It has got to be something that will work, but if you don't reject the committee amendments, you're not going to have that option. It could be ready by 19...by January 1, 1995 and it won't be required. If it is not required, it is going to cost General Fund to operate because the only way you get the savings is if all the counties are on it and if it works like it is supposed to work, the counties will want to be on it. I think it's going to be a benefit to them if it works like it is supposed to work. So I would again thank the committee for bringing this bill out as quickly as they have.

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: I appreciate the concern that they have and the county officials have on the part of this regarding the change in the mandating date, but I have to rise in opposition to the committee amendments for that reason.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Hohenstein. Senator Byars.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Madam President. I want to make a couple of points and, of course, as members of the Appropriations Committee and the Transportation Committee and